



26th LD Democrats Minutes for 8/1/2019

1. Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance, Approval of agenda.
2. Recognition of elected officials, candidates, and first-time guests
3. Program: Derek Young on County Government (Charlotte Garrido was supposed to be the other speaker but was caught in traffic and couldn't get to the meeting.) Derek compared Pierce County and Kitsap County governments. Kitsap has 3 Commissioners and they set laws and budget and also supervise county employees. Pierce County has a Board of seven elected Council persons and is the legislative branch of the County. There is also an elected County Executive who manages the county government and employees and influences legislative actions. Derek highlighted the importance of county government and the chronic underfunding of functions delegated to the Counties by the State. For example, public defenders are paid for by the County although this responsibility was delegated by the State without any funding. The County is also short 60 sheriff deputies, as it would require raising taxes to pay for them. Kitsap, by comparison, has instituted a public utility district that provides a means for funding. One of the big issues facing Pierce and Kitsap Counties is how to deal with rapid growth. By 2050, it is estimated that the area will have 1.6 million people. How will South Puget Sound handle this growth in terms of infrastructure (transportation, housing, etc.)? Derek also discussed some recent initiatives and answered audience questions.
4. Approval of Minutes: Minutes for June and July meetings are available on the website and copies were provided at the meeting. Members are asked to review these minutes and the August minutes before the September meeting so minutes for all three months can be approved.
5. Treasurer's report: Constance provided members with year-to-date income and expenses. Current bank account has over \$18,000 after paying LD 28 for partnering with us on the IMAX event. The LD will be conducting a membership drive in the fall to increase our funds; more information will be forthcoming in September. Members can also go on the website and sign up to have monthly donations directly from their bank accounts to help fund the LD. Our State Chair says we are a model for the state as an LD. We are prepared to open a campaign office in January 2020 for our partisan campaigns.
6. Old Business
 - a. Update on Kitsap and Pierce County Listening Canvasses: State Field Organizer Evan Koepfler described the Pierce County Listening Canvass on July 27 as a big success; 90



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volunteers came to canvass, write postcards, and phone bank. State Chair Tina Podlodowski was the spokesperson for that event. Kitsap County will have a similar event August 4 with Emily Randall as the spokesperson. LD 26 members from Kitsap were encouraged to participate.

d. Update on Kitsap Pride (July 20): Chair Luellen Lucid described the Kitsap Pride booth as very successful, with many volunteers helping out and Emily Randall there most of the day; many new voters were registered.

e. Blackberry Festival (August 31-September 2): LD 26 is responsible for staffing this event on September 2. Volunteers signed up to work the booth.

c. Democratic Discussion Club Candidate Forums: Two well attended candidate forums were organized by Larry Seaquist and held on the KP and in Gig Harbor. The candidates said the Gig Harbor forum was the best conducted they have attended. Jill Neumeister served as moderator.

7. New Business

a. Upcoming (September) Days of Action in LD 26: LD 26 will hold its own listening canvass on September 21; members will be encouraged to participate. More information will be forthcoming.

b. 2020 Fundraising Plans: Another major fundraiser is being planned by the Executive Board for April or May, 2020. A couple of different venues are under consideration. Goal is to attract 250 to this dinner.

c. Bob Ferguson (AG) Fundraising Dinner September 15: Bob Ferguson contacted Chair Luellen Lucid about a fundraising dinner he is holding and asked if LD 26 could put together a table. We have done so. A second table is now being formed. Tickets can be purchased on-line, but anyone attending should let Luellen know so she can form the second table.

8. Next General Meeting: September 5, 6:30 p.m., Givens Center: Union Leaders Panel. Speakers: Steve Miller (IAM 160), Stacy Opiopio (UFCW 21), Patty Rose (Pierce County Central Labor Council), Pedro E. Olguin (Teamsters 117), Todd Iverson (ILWU Local #23 at Port of Tacoma) and Cherika Carter (Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO), moderator.